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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/089,023	08/06/2002	Kazuhide Uru	MTS -3324US	5299
7590	12/05/2003		EXAMINER	
Allan Ratner Ratner & Prestia P O Box 980 Valley Forge, PA 19482			TAKAOKA, DEAN O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 12/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/089,023	URIU ET AL.
	Examiner Dean O Takaoka	Art Unit 2817 <i>MW</i>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 6-20,22-25,27 and 28 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-3,5 and 26 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 August 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5,6.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

Figures 7 and 8 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: With respect to Fig. 7, it appears the items labeled as 79x should be 71x (e.g. 790 – 792 should be 710 – 712 respectively) to correspond to the reference numbers in the specification (see pages 2 and 3). A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 – 3, 5 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Okamura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,404,118), prior art submitted in the Applicant's IDS.

Claims 1 and 26:

Okamura et al. (Fig. 15) shows a laminated bandpass filter comprising input and output electrodes (126a,b) and grounding electrodes (118a-d and 144a-d) placed on an end face of a laminated body (best illustrated in Fig. 1 where 44c,f are input/output electrodes and 44a-d are ground electrodes) integrating a plurality of laminated dielectric sheets; an internal grounding electrode provided in an internal layer (116 or 142) of the laminated body and connected to the grounding electrode; a plurality of capacitor electrodes (162a,b) including at least a first and second capacitor electrodes; and a plurality of striplines (132a,b) including at least a first and second striplines, where the first and second capacitor electrodes are capacitively coupled with the internal grounding electrode (where capacitor electrodes 162a,b are capacitively coupled to ground electrode 142; col. 10, lines 23-26) and electrically connected to one ends of the first and second striplines respectively (where capacitor electrodes 162a,b are connected to the striplines at one end through vias), the other ends of the first and second striplines are electrically connected to the grounding electrode (best shown with respect to Fig. 1 where striplines 132a,b are connected to grounds 116 and 142 in Fig. 15 by external electrodes 44a-d in Fig. 1), the first and second striplines (132a,b) are placed on the same dielectric sheet in a certain distance and thereby electromagnetically coupled within the same layer (coupling shown in Fig. 16).

The method of claim 26 is generic defining a final product thus the device of Okamura et al. inherently made by a method.

Claim 2:

Where the first and second striplines have the same length and width.

Claim 3:

Where the first and second striplines are placed parallel to each other.

Claim 5:

Where the first and second striplines are placed on a dielectric sheet.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 – 20, 22 – 25, 27 and 28 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Okamura et al. shows a first stripline placed on a first sheet and a second stripline placed on a second sheet, the second sheet placed directly below the first dielectric sheet but does not show where the first and second striplines are electromagnetically coupled (claims 6 and 27). With respect to claims 15 and 28, Okamura et al. shows a first and second capacitor electrode, a first and second stripline placed on a first sheet, and a second and third stripline placed on a second sheet, the second sheet placed directly below the first dielectric sheet but does not show a first thru fourth capacitor electrode or where the first stripline is electromagnetically coupled to the third stripline and second stripline is electromagnetically coupled to the fourth stripline (claims 15 and 28).

Claim 4 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dean O Takaoka whose telephone number is (703) 305-6242. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30a - 5:00p Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on (703) 308-4909. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

dot
November 17, 2003



Robert Pascal
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800